pine, fir, or oil, mixed with one form or another of glutinous substance, beaten fine and then put into molds. The better kinds may be scented and have gold leaf mixed in them. Ink is put on the market in cakes or cylinders and is inscribed with characters, usually in gold. To prepare it for use by the writer it is rubbed with water on a stone. Some of these stones are regarded as very valuable. Pens are made from the hair of various animals and in such form that when moistened they can be easily pointed.

JADE

What is collectively called jade by Westerners and *yu* by the Chinese comprises more than one kind of rock. It includes nephrite and jadeite, the former a silicate of calcium and magnesium and the latter a silicate of aluminum and sodium. Many peoples have regarded jade as valuable, but it has been especially prized by the Chinese. Under the Chou and part of the Han it was quarried in what is now Shensi and perhaps was found in other parts of the older China. As the domestic sources became exhausted, however, it was imported from Turkestan and later from Yunnan and Burma.

Jade has served many purposes. Jade implements, apparently for secular occupations, have come down from the Chou and perhaps from earlier times. Out of it ceremonial utensils have been made. Under the Chou special kinds of insignia of power were carved from it. In ancient times, too, it was frequently employed in the worship of Heaven, Earth, and other divinities. For instance, a circular jade disc pierced by a round hole was a symbol of Heaven. Tablets of jade have been utilized for writing—but apparently only for imperial purposes. They were used in the

ceremonies of *jeng* and *shan,* and even in the Ch'ing dynasty some important documents were incised on them. Jade has been employed for amulets, and jade objects have been buried with the dead, partly because they have been supposed to protect the body from decay and partly because they have been believed to promote immortality. Jade, it has been held by Taoists, is the food of spirits, and at one time it was believed that one's chances of immortality could be improved by eating from jade bowls. Jade has been and is extensively employed in the manufacture of ornaments of many kinds—earrings, hairpins, pendants, clasps,